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### ***Bond Reduced by Court For Espionage Suspect***

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., July 29 (UPI) — A Federal magistrate today reduced to \$400,000 from \$500,00 the bond of Joseph George Helmich Jr., who is accused of conspiracy and espionage for the Soviet Union. The amount was still far above the \$5,000 that Mr. Helmich's attorney said his client could afford.

In arguing against reduction, Richard Scruggs of the Justice Department, reminded Magistrate Howard T. Snyder of Government charges that money had been put aside by the Soviet Union for Mr. Helmich and that escape procedures had been worked out.

The 44-year-old Mr. Helmich, a former Army warrant officer, was indicted by a Federal grand jury two weeks ago. The indictment says that in 1963-64, while he was attached to the United States Embassy in Paris, Mr. Helmich turned over to Soviet agents information about a sophisticated coding machine.

Peter Dearing, Mr. Helmich's court-appointed attorney, argued for a "reasonable bond" that Mr. Helmich, who has said his total worth is "\$200 to \$300," could post, and that would assure his future appearance in court. His trial is scheduled to begin Sept. 14.